

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: UNHRC, SHUM  
SUBJECT: 34TH UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: 1503  
PROCEEDINGS--UGANDA

SUMMARY. IN A PRECEDENT-SETTING ACTION, THE HRC AT ITS  
MARCH 2ND A.M. SESSION ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS A DRAFT  
DECISION ON UGANDA WHICH PROVIDES FOR A THOROUGH STUDY  
TO BE CONDUCTED BY AN "EMINENT AFRICAN PERSONALITY" ON  
THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN UGANDA.

1. CONSIDERATION OF UGANDAN SITUATION BY HRC WAS  
COMPARATIVELY BRIEF BECAUSE OF PRE-ARRANGED AGREEMENT  
WHICH HAD BEEN ACHIEVED BY CHAIRMAN M'BAYE. THE COMMISS-  
ION HAD BEFORE IT A DRAFT DECISION SUBMITTED BY THE  
CHAIRMAN. IN THE ABSENCE OF M'BAYE THE DRAFT DECISION  
WAS INTRODUCED BY ACTING CHAIRMAN SADI (JORDAN).  
BREAKING THE USUAL PATTERN ACCORDING TO WHICH REPRESENTA-  
TIVES OF THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED TAKE THE FLOOR TO  
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EXPLAIN THEIR GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE ALLEGATIONS,  
THE UGANDAN REPRESENTATIVE, MR. JUSTICE MOHAMED SAIED,  
DID NOT ADDRESS THE COMMISSION.

2. THE ONLY DISCUSSION OF SUBSTANCE WAS LIMITED TO THAT  
PROVISION IN THE DRAFT DECISION WHICH CALLS FOR A REPORT  
TO THE HRC "AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THROUGH THE SECRETARY-

GENERAL." ALTHOUGH SWEDEN AND PERU PROPOSED THAT A SPECIFIC TIME LIMIT BE INTRODUCED, THE DELEGATIONS OF PAKISTAN, SYRIA AND SENEGAL ARGUED FOR LEAVING THE TIME LIMIT FLEXIBLE, TO BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE EMINENT AFRICAN PERSONALITY AND THE UGANDAN GOVERNMENT. SENEGAL, SUPPORTED BY CHAIRMAN, STRESSED THAT THE DRAFT TEXT HAD RESULTED FROM PRIVATE NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT AMENDMENTS COULD UPSET THE BALANCED FORMULATION WHICH HAD BEEN ACHIEVED.

3. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM USDEL, UGANDAN REP NOTED THAT THE DECISION HAD COME ABOUT AS A RESULT OF CONSULTATION AND THAT IT WAS ACCEPTABLE TO HIS DELEGATION. HE SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT ACCEPTED THAT THE EMINENT AFRICAN PERSONALITY WOULD VISIT UGANDA, ALTHOUGH THE EXACT TIMING COULD NOT BE DETERMINED AT THIS TIME.

4. THE DECISION, TEXT OF WHICH ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AS THAT REPORTED IN GENEVA'S 3015, WAS ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS.

5. USDEL STRESSES THAT THESE PROCEEDINGS WERE HELD IN STRICT CONFIDENTIALITY AND THAT NO DETAILS MAY BE RELEASED PUBLICLY. CHAIRMAN M'BAYE HAS INFORMED US OF HIS INTENTION TO ANNOUNCE THAT ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN UNDER THE 1503 PROCEDURES, AND HE WILL LIST THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COUNTRIES AT THE CLOSE OF THE ITEM. THE DETAILS OF THE ACTIONS WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL.

6. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DECISION AS ADOPTED.

BEGIN TEXT. THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS,

FURTHER TO ITS CONFIDENTIAL DECISION CONCERNING UGANDA, ADOPTED ON 1 MARCH 1977 AT ITS 1410TH (CLOSED) MEETING,

HAVING CONSIDERED THE REPORT (E/CN.4/R.30) OF THE WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1503 (XLVIII),

1. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, TO DESIGNATE AN EMINENT AFRICAN PERSONALITY WHO WILL ENTER INTO CONTACT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA AND WILL, UNDER THE PROCEDURE PROVIDED FOR IN THE ABOVE-MENTIONED RESOLUTION 1503 (XLVIII), UNDERTAKE A THOROUGH STUDY OF THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO HUMAN RIGHTS IN UGANDA AND REPORT TO THE

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THROUGH  
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL;

2. REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO TAKE THE NECESSARY  
MEASURES TO PROVIDE THE DESIGNATED PERSONALITY WITH ALL  
THE NECESSARY FACILITIES TO ENABLE HIM TO CARRY OUT HIS  
MISSION IN THE BEST POSSIBLE CONDITIONS. END TEXT.

7. IN COMMENTING UPON FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF  
DECISION, HUMAN RIGHTS DIVISION DIRECTOR VAN BOVEN  
INDICATED HIS PRESUMPTION THAT THREE VISITS TO UGANDA  
BY THE "EMINENT AFRICAN PERSONALITY" WOULD TAKE PLACE  
DURING THE YEAR 1978. ESTIMATED EXPENSES (DOLLARS  
37,719) WOULD BE COVERED BY THE 1978 BUDGET.  
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## Message Attributes

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